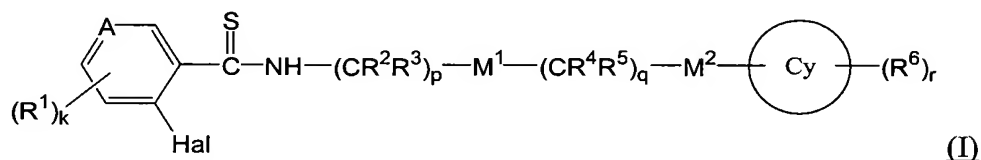


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented): A thioamide compound represented by formula (I) or a salt thereof:



wherein

A is a nitrogen atom, N-oxide, C-NO₂ or C-CN;

Hal is a halogen atom;

M¹ is an alkenyl group which may be substituted, an alkynyl group which may be substituted, a cycloalkyl group which may be substituted, a cycloalkenyl group which may be substituted, an aryl group which may be substituted, a heterocyclic group which may be substituted, an amino group which may be substituted, an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, SO or SO₂;

M² is an amino group which may be substituted, an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or a single bond;

R¹ is a halogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group, an alkyl group which may be substituted, an alkoxy group which may be substituted, an alkylthio group which may be substituted, an amino group which may be substituted or a heterocyclic group which may be substituted;

each of R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ is independently a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group which may be substituted, a cyano group or an alkyloxycarbonyl group;

R⁶ is a halogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group, an alkyl group which may be substituted, an alkenyl group which may be substituted, an alkynyl group which may be

substituted, a cycloalkyl group which may be substituted, a cycloalkenyl group which may be substituted, an aryl group which may be substituted, a heterocyclic group which may be substituted, an amino group which may be substituted or B-Q (wherein B is a carbonyl group, a carbonyloxy group, an oxycarbonyl group, an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, SO or SO₂; and Q is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group which may be substituted, an alkenyl group which may be substituted, an alkynyl group which may be substituted, a cycloalkyl group which may be substituted, a cycloalkenyl group which may be substituted, an aryl group which may be substituted, a heterocyclic group which may be substituted or an amino group which may be substituted);

Cy is a cycloalkyl group, a cycloalkenyl group, an aryl group or a heterocyclic group;
each of k, p and q is independently an integer of from 0 to 3; and
r is an integer of from 0 to 5.

Claim 2 (Original): The compound according to Claim 1, wherein p and q are 0, or a salt thereof.

Claims 3-13 (Cancelled).

Claim 14 (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound according to Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 15 (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound according to Claim 2 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.